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CI/LA
INCOMING

FRP:

STAFF

ACTION: CI/CLFL (969) INFO: ODPD-D, RF, FILE, CIDORECORD, QA/FILE,
C/LA/RB, DC/LA/RB, LA/APUB-4, LA/OPS, C/CI, CI/LA-2, EPO/LA, SA/ODDO,
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PAGE 001
TOR: 072223Z JUN 85

IN 7521326
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SECRET 072022Z JUN 85 STAFF

CITE [] 24445

TO: DIRECTOR.

WNINTEL TAZZA LWCATCH TRACE

SUBJECT: JAMES PANKEY, POSSIBLE SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON
JOSEF MENGELE

REFS: A. [] 24432 7486126

B. DIRECTOR 397551

C. DIRECTOR 400760

1. ACTION REQUIRED:

A. TRACES ON JAMES CECIL ((PANKEY)), US CIT, BORN 21 OCT 1935, COLORADO, BEARER US PASSPORT A2081756, RESIDENT PARAGUAY, OCC: DRILLING CONSULTANT AND COTTON MERCHANT; AND, ALEJANDRINA ((PORTILLO DE PANKEY)), PARAGUAYAN CITIZEN, BORN 23 SEP 50, YUTY, PARAGUAY, MARRIED TO JAMES PANKEY AND RESIDENT PARAGUAY. FOREGOING OBTAINED FROM US CONSULAR FILES. NO STATION TRACES.

B. PASSAGE OF INFORMATION BELOW TO US MARSHALLS SERVICE (USMS).

2. JAMES CECIL PANKEY (SUBJECT) WAS INTERVIEWED BY SHIEF POLITICAL SECTION ON 03 JUNE 1985 AT HIS OWN REQUEST FOLLOWING A VISIT TO THE CONSULATE ON 31 MAY TO OBTAIN A VISA FOR HIS WIFE. PANKEY SAID THAT HE WISHED TO FOLUNTEER INFORMATION ON A DOCTOR WHO HE SUSPECTED MIGHT BE IDENTICAL WITH JOSEF MENGELE. SUBJECT SAID THAT HE LIVES PART OF THE TIME IN YUTY IN CAAZAPA PROVINCE. HE SAID THAT A RELATIVE OF HIS WIFE HAD BEEN HOSPITALIZED FOR 22 DAYS LAST MONTH IN A HOSPITAL IN THE TOWN OF TAVAI, ALSO IN CAAZAPA PROVINCE. ACCORDING TO INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS OF HIS WIFE'S FAMILY, THE HOSPITAL IS RUN BY THREE GERMAN DOCTORS AND ONE PARAGUAYAN PHYSICIAN.

3. SUBJECT SAID THAT ONE OF THE GERMAN DOCTORS IS AN OLD MAN, PERHAPS IN HIS SEVENTIES, ABOUT WHOM MEMBERS OF THE HOSPITAL STAFF WOULD NOT TALK. PANKEY SAID ONE OF HIS IN-LAWS ASKED A NURSE AT THE HOSPITAL WHO THE ELDERLY DOCTOR WAS AND WAS TOLD "THAT'S NOT IMPORTANT". HIS WIFE'S RELATIVE WHO WAS HOSPITALIZED NEVER ACTUALLY SPOKE TO THE OLD DOCTOR WHO ALLEGEDLY NEVER SEEMED TO SPEAK TO ANYBODY. ACCORDING TO THE HOSPITAL STAFF THE DOCTOR LIVES IN A HEAVILY GUARDED HOUSE IN THE VICINITY OF ENCARNACION IN SOUTHERN PARAGUAY AND TRAVELS TO THE HOSPITAL IN TAVAI PERIODICALLY. SUBJECT SAID ACCORDING TO HIS WIFE'S RELATIVE THE ONLY REALLY DISTINGUISHING FEATURE

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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SECRET

85 7521326 ASR

PAGE 002
TOR: 072223Z JUN 85

IN 7521326
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OF THIS DOCTOR, APART FROM HIS "LOOKING LIKE A GERMAN", WAS A SCAR ON HIS RIGHT HAND. SUBJECT SAID THAT HIS WIFE'S RELATIVES AND OTHERS IN THE AREA AROUND TAVAI WERE AFRAID OF THE DOCTOR AND BELIEVED HIM TO BE JOSEF MENGELE. SUBJECT ADMITTED, HOWEVER, THAT HE WAS UNAWARE OF ANY CONCRETE EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT HIS HUNCH.

4. SUBJECT SAID THAT HIS WIFE'S RELATIVE WAS DUE TO RETURN TO THE HOSPITAL FOR A CHECK UP, AND HIS WIFE VOLUNTEERED TO DRIVE THE RELATIVE OVER IN THE HOPE OF BEING ABLE TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE MYSTERIOUS DOCTOR. SUBJECT AND WIFE WILL STOP BY THE EMBASSY THE NEXT TIME THEY ARE IN ASUNCION TO REPORT ON WHAT THEY HAVE BEEN ABLE TO LEARN.

5. IN A SEPARATE CONVERSATION WITH CONSULAR OFFICER, SUBJECT SAID THAT ALLEGEDLY THE DOCTOR SPECIALIZES IN TREATING LEPERS AND ASTHMATICS.

6. COMMENT: THE POLITICAL OFFICER BELIEVES THAT SUBJECT IS BASICALLY HONEST BUT ALSO SUSPECTS THAT SUBJECT MAY BE GRASPING AT STRAWS IN AN EFFORT TO EARN THE REWARD OFFERED FOR MENGELE. BY WAY OF BACKGROUND, US MARSHALL DONALD FERRARONE, DURING HIS TDY HERE, ASKED STATION TO ASSIST IN DEBRIEFING SUBJECT. FERRARONE SAID HE WOULD ADVISE AS TO HOW SUBJECT COULD BE CONTACTED BUT HAS NOT FOLLOWED THROUGH. STATION WORKED OUT AGREEMENT WITH EMBASSY WHEREBY A POLITICAL OFFICER WOULD DEBRIEF SUBJECT AND OTHERS LIKE HIM OF UNKNOWN VERACITY. IF A SOURCE APPEARED TO BE OF CONTINUING CLANDESTINE INTEREST HE WOULD THEN BE TURNED OVER TO STATION. THIS PROCEDURE SET UP TO HELP PROTECT STATION FROM POSSIBLE GOVERNMENT INSPIRED PROVOCATEURS AND ALSO HELP SCREEN OUT CRACKPOTS AND FABRICATORS. SUBJECT DOES NOT HAVE A PHONE IN YUTY BUT CAN BE CONTACTED VIA A FRIEND IN ASUNCION WHOSE PHONE NUMBER IS 660-137. IF HE DOES NOT RETURN TO EMBASSY IN REASONABLE LENGTH OF TIME, CONSULAR OFFICER, WHO HAS NATURAL COVER FOR CONTACTING HIM, WILL INITIATE RECONTACT. STATION WILL ATTEMPT VERIFY STORY THROUGH C J AND WILL ADVISE.

7. FILE: 201-0994286. DECL OADR DRV HUM 4-82. ALL
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END OF MESSAGE

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